

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-02 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 CU-05 PC-10 AID-20 DRC-01 /133 W

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R 031438Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0849

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 10463

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT ET

SUBJECT: A CASCADE OF ETHIOPIAN DEVELOPMENTS

REFS: (A) ADDIS 8206; (B) ADDIS 7873; (C) ADDIS 10374

1. ACCORDING RADIO ETHIOPIA SEPTEMBER 3, FUGITIVE TSEHAI INKU SELASSIE (REF A) WAS RUN TO GROUND BY ARMED FORCES NEAR FICHE IN NORTH-CENTRAL SHOA. CLASH ENSUED BETWEEN MILITARY, TSEHAI AND HIS SUPPORTERS, AT END OF WHICH FUGITIVE WAS DEAD AND HIS ASSOCIATES CAPTIVES OF ETHIOPIAN MILITARY. ACCORDING TO ANOTHER REPORT REACHING EMBASSY AND BELIEVED ACCURATE, TOHAI INKU SELASSIE, WANTED EX-GOVGEN OF KAFFA, ALSO KILLED BY IEMF (CF REF B).

2. PRESIDENT OF HSIU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION INFORMS US THAT AFCC CALLED ON ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP AUGUST 29 TO PROVIDE IT (AFCC) WITH THE "GUIDANCE OF THE INTELLECTUAL COMMUNITY." WORKING GROUPS ON POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS WERE CONSTITUTED AND THE ASSOCIATION REQUESTED TO NOMINATE STAFFERS FOR THEM. ASSOCIATION RESPONSE TO THIS CALL SOMEWHAT LUKEWARM TO DATE (CF REF C).

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3. SEPTEMBER 3 RADIO BROADCAST IN AMHARIC AND ENGLISH ALSO CARRIED AFCC ANNOUNCEMENT THAT UNIVERSITY AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS AND STUDENTS SHOULD HOLD THEMSELVES READY FOR ASSIGNMENT TO DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN COUNTRYSIDE. PLANNING FOR THESE PROJECTS STILL IN COURSE, AND THEY ARE TO BE IMPLEMENTED AS SOON AS PLANS COMPLETED. PROJECTS ARE INTENDED TO NARROW GAP IN LIVING STANDARD BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL POPULATIONS. LITERACY TO BE TAUGHT, AS IS HEALTH, RUDIMENTARY AGRICULTURAL SKILLS, ETC. COMMUNITY SELF-HELP PROJECTS TO BE UNDERTAKEN AND "THE MASSES TAUGHT TO FREE THEMSELVES OF SOCIAL ILLS." STUDENTS AND TEACHERS, MOREOVER, TO BE MOBILIZED FOR DROUGHT RELIEF PROJECTS (UNSPECIFIED). THEY EQUALLY EXPECTED TEACH "ETHIOPIA FIRST"/NATIONALISM, VIZ., THAT ALL ETHIOPIANS HAVE EQUAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SAFEGUARDING THEIR UNITY AND INDEPENDENCE. INSTRUCTORS ALSO TO LECTURE ON REJECTION OF OPPRESSION ON BASIS OF EDUCATION, WEALTH, AUTHORITY OR BIRTH.

4. COMMENT: SOURCES IN MINED AND UNIVERSITY ARE SPECULATING ABOUT SIGNIFICANCE THESE STATEMENTS. IT OUR IMPRESSION THAT PROPOSAL YET TO BE STAFFED OUT. DIFFICULTIES OF ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION LIKELY HAVE TO BE EXPLORED AND SOLUTIONS FOUND OVERTIME. TIMING OF ANNOUNCEMENT PROBABLY RELATED FIRST AND FOREMOST TO NEW POLITICAL PRESSURES ANTICIPATED AS STUDENTS SCHEDULED RETURN TO SCHOOLS LATER THIS MONTH. IMPACT OF PROPOSAL ON OPERATION OF SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITY AND, THEREFORE, ON RELATED US PROGRAMS (E.G., PEACE CORPS) FAR FROM CLEAR. STUDENTS' OWN REACTION TO THIS TURN OF EVENTS WILL ALSO BEAR WATCHING.
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